

The Nation Grows and Divides

**A Presentation based on the
Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE)
Objectives for High School History Students**

GSE Objectives

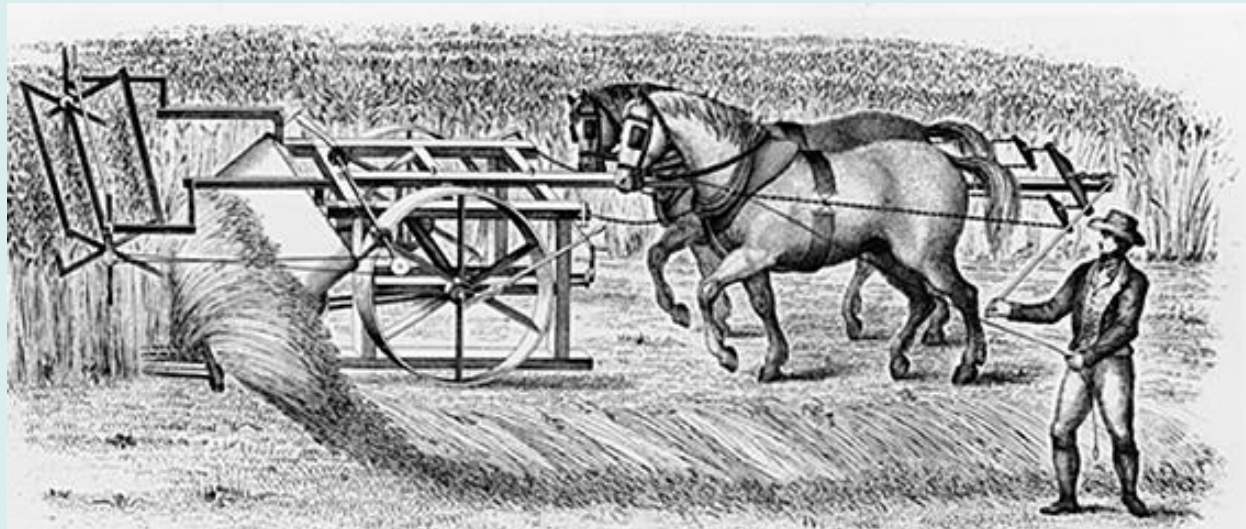
SSUSH8 Explore the relationship between slavery, growing north-south divisions, and westward expansion that led to the outbreak of the Civil War.

SSUSH8a. Explain the impact of the Missouri Compromise on the admission of states from the Louisiana Territory.



Manifest Destiny

- **Manifest Destiny** was the idea that God had given the continent to Americans and wanted them to settle the west.
- Several **inventions**, including John Deere's **steel plow** and Cyrus McCormick's **mechanical reaper**, opened up the Great Plains to farmers.
- Until these inventions, many believed that the Great Plains was unsuitable for farming.



Settling the Midwest & Great Plains

- In the early 1800s, **squatters** settled land they did not own in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, & Wisconsin.
- The **Preemption Act of 1830** allowed squatters to buy up to 160 acres of land at \$1.25 per acre.
- Midwestern land previously considered bad for farming became valuable after invention of metal plows & mechanical reaper.

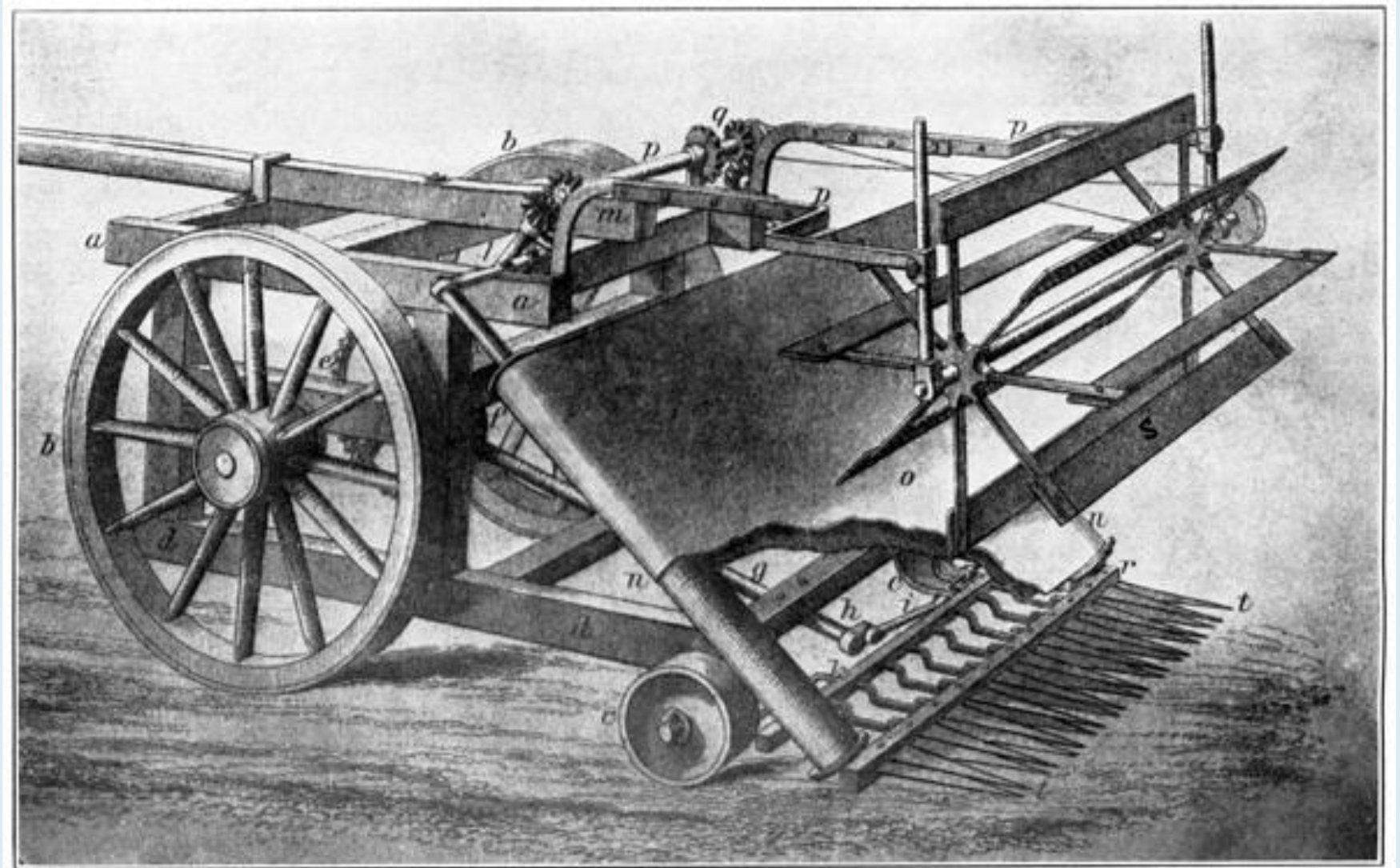
Before the Mechanical Reaper



Method of Harvesting before the
Invention of the Reaper

Amos 1890

MECHANICAL REAPER: BELL'S REAPER, 1826



The Mechanical Binder

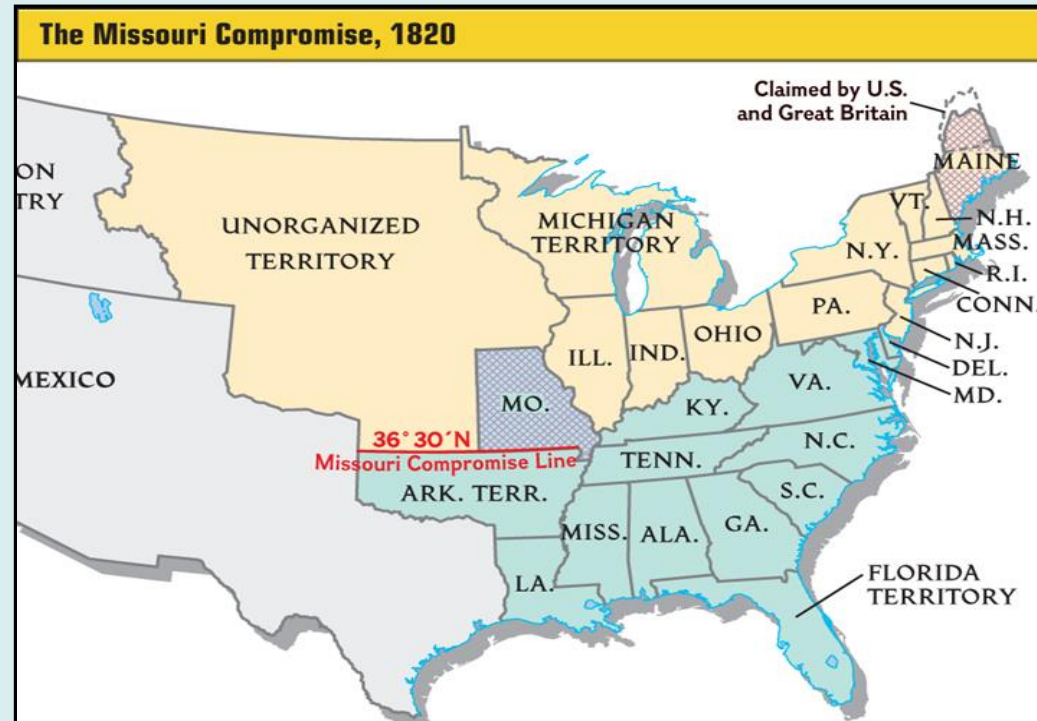


The McCormick Model Two Binder

The Missouri Compromise

- In 1819 the U.S. consisted of 11 free and 11 slave states.
- Missouri applied for statehood as a slave state in 1819.
- To offset the imbalance, Maine applied to become a free state.
- The Missouri Compromise granted statehood to both territories and set a boundary around areas in which slavery could expand.
- Specifically, slavery was not allowed north of Missouri's southern border (except in the new state of Missouri).

Why would the South agree not to expand slavery into the Unorganized Louisiana Territory?



GSE Objective

SSUSHb. Examine James K. Polk's presidency in the fulfillment of Manifest Destiny including the Texas annexation and Oregon.



Texas



Settlement of Texas

- The regions we call Mexico and Texas today were part of Spain's colonial empire from the early 1500s until 1821, when Mexico successfully rebelled against Spain.
- Spain, and later Mexico, encouraged settlers to move into Texas. At first, slavery was not allowed, but many later settlers did own slaves.
- Mexican law required settlers to practice the Roman Catholic religion, pay taxes, and follow Mexican laws.
- The settlers, mostly from the U.S., largely ignored these rules.
- After the Mexican government closed Texas to immigration and outlawed slavery, the **Texas settlers rebelled in 1835.**

The Lone Star Republic

- In March 1836, a group of Texans were defeated at the Alamo by a much larger Mexican Army led by Santa Anna.
- A month later, the remaining Texan army surprised the Mexicans at the Battle of San Jacinto, captured Mexico's leader Santa Anna, and forced him to recognize Texas as an independent state.
- Thus, in 1836 Texas became, for a brief period, an independent country called the Lone Star Republic.

Oregon Territory

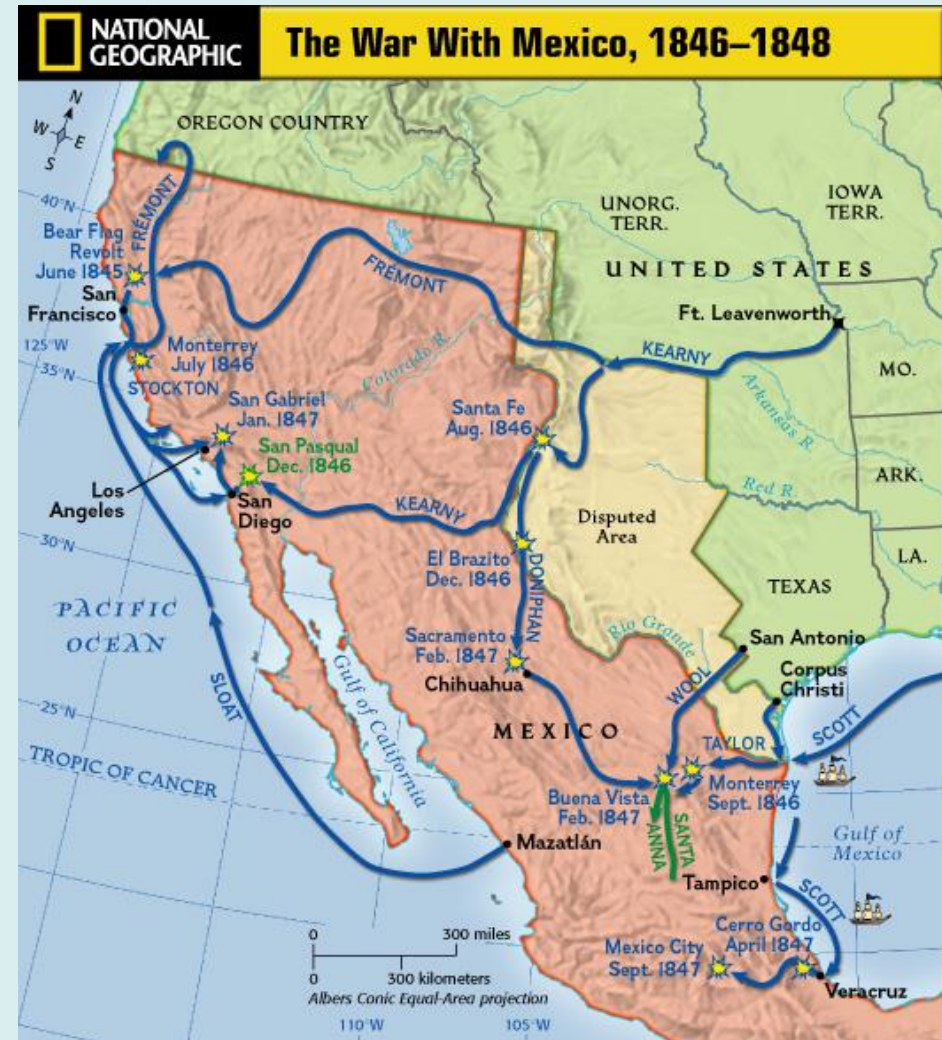
- Oregon and Washington states were formerly part of a region known as the Oregon Territory.
- This area's boundaries were disputed between the U.S. and Great Britain.
- In 1844, James K. Polk ran for and won the Presidency under the slogan "Fifty-four Forty or Fight!" meaning the border would be recognized at the 54th degree of latitude or the U.S. would go to war with Britain.
- However, by 1846, a peaceful resolution was found which placed the northern boundary at the 49th parallel excluding several islands.

GSE Objective

SSUSH8c. Analyze the impact of the Mexican War on growing sectionalism.

The Mexican-American War

- James Polk became President in 1845, promising to **annex** Texas and Oregon.
- When the U.S. did annex Texas in 1845, it resulted in a boundary dispute with Mexico.
- President Polk ordered the U.S. army into the disputed area in 1846, and Mexican troops opened fire on the Americans.
- Polk then convinced Congress to declare war, claiming Mexico was the aggressor.



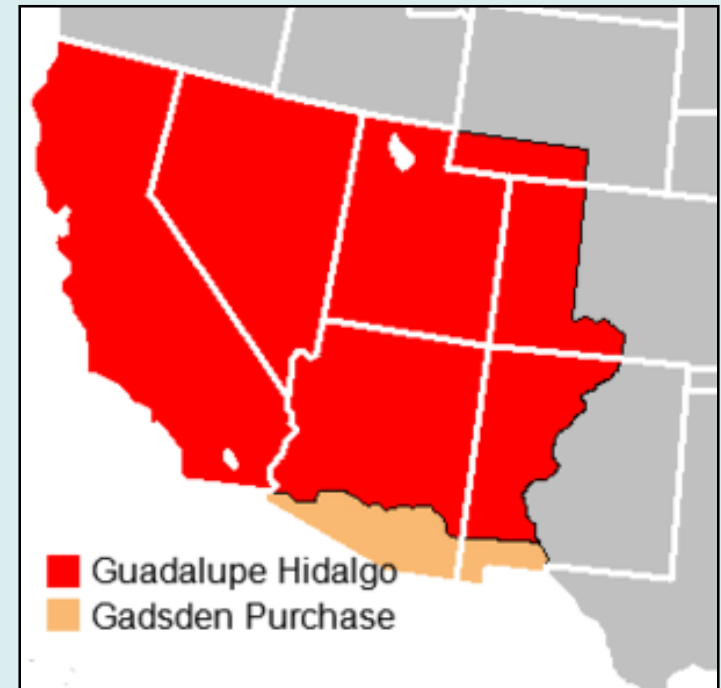
War With Mexico

- The American army was ordered into Mexico and out to California.
- Before the troops reached California, a group of American settlers revolted and took over the area, naming it the **Bear Flag Republic**.
- The U.S. won every major battle in the war.
- By 1847, the U.S. Army entered Mexico City and forced the Mexicans to surrender, thus ending the Mexican War.

War With Mexico

- The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo officially ended the war, giving the U.S. a vast amount of land in the Southwest
- The U.S. now stretched from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

Why would this treaty cause problems regarding the issue of slavery?



GSE Objective

SSUSHd. Explain how the Compromise of 1850 arose out of territorial expansion and population growth.

The California Gold Rush of 1849

- In 1848, gold was discovered near Sutter's Mill in Northern California.
- Known as "Forty-Niners" (or "49ers"), tens of thousands of people migrated to California seeking their fortunes.
- Although most 49ers did not strike it rich, some did become wealthy finding gold.
- Many others profited by selling tools and other goods to the fortune hunters.

Wilmot Proviso

- In 1846, Congressman David Wilmot upset Southerners by proposing that any territory gained from Mexico should not be allowed to have slaves.
- Although the proposal passed in the House of Representatives, **the Senate refused to vote on it, and it did not go into effect.**
- **Importance:** Wilmot's proviso reflects continuing north-south sectionalism resulting from the issue of slavery.

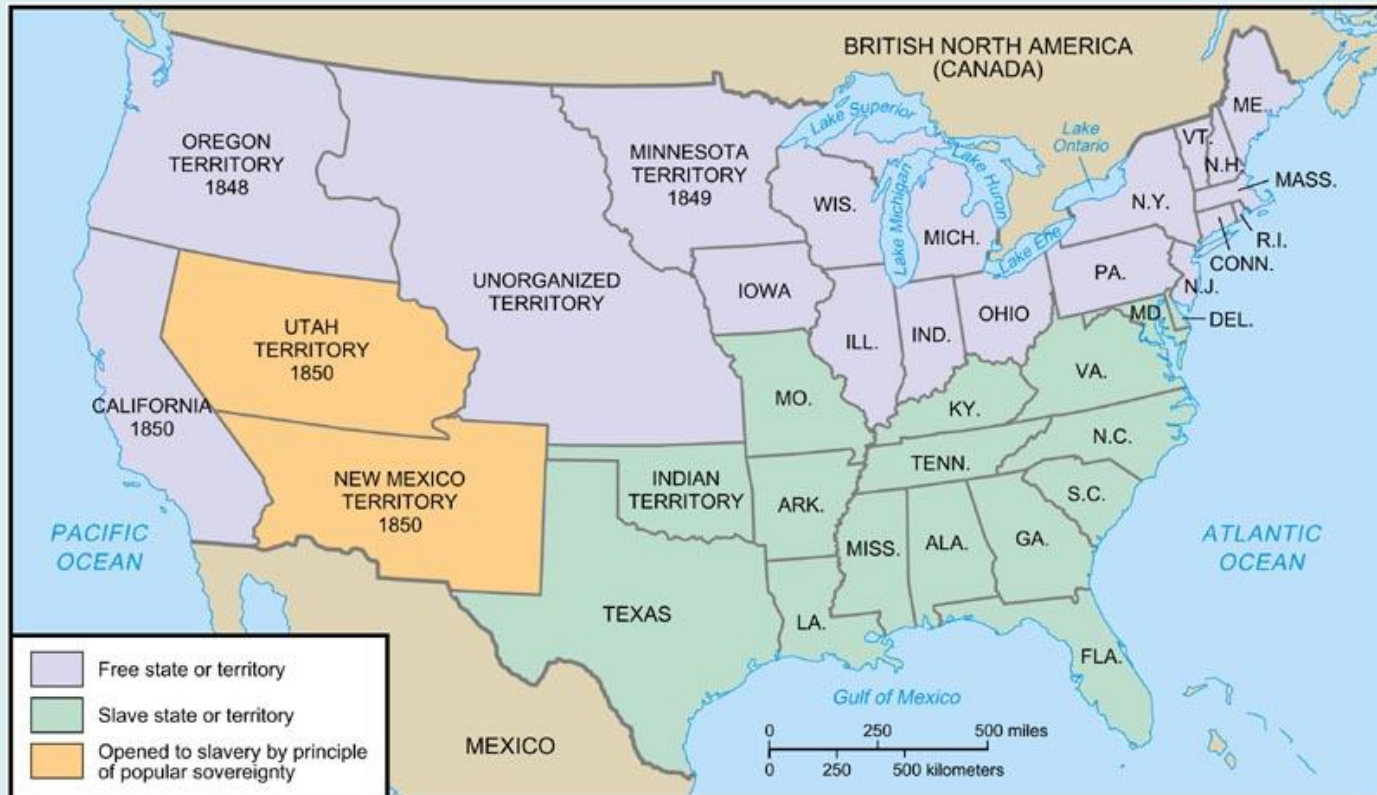
Compromise of 1850

- To counter the Wilmot Proviso and to ease tension, a proposal was made by Senator Lewis Cass to allow the new territories to decide for themselves on the slavery issue, an idea called **popular sovereignty**.
- California applied for statehood in 1849, threatening to break the balance of free and slave states.
- Henry Clay proposed a resolution which became known as the Compromise of 1850.

The Compromise of 1850	
Legislative Item	Victory for?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• California admitted to the Union as free state	Clear victory for the North
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Popular sovereignty to determine slavery issue in Utah and New Mexico territories	Moderate victory for both sides
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Texas border dispute with New Mexico resolved• Texas receives \$10 million	Moderate Southern victories
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slave trade, but not slavery itself, abolished in the District of Columbia	Moderate Northern victory
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong federal enforcement of new Fugitive Slave Act	Clear victory for the South

Compromise of 1850

- Although the Compromise initially had little support, its provisions were eventually passed by dividing it into several smaller bills, allowing Congress to vote on each issue separately, thus easing the tension, for the time being, over slavery.



THE COMPROMISE OF 1850

Provisions of the Compromise of 1850

1. California would be admitted as a free state.
2. The state of New Mexico would be established by carving its borders from the state of Texas.
3. New Mexico's voters would determine whether the state would permit or prohibit slavery.
4. All citizens of the United States, regardless of region, would be required to apprehend runaway slaves and return them to their owners. Those who failed to do so would be fined or imprisoned.
5. The slave trade would be abolished in the District of Columbia, but the practice of slavery would be allowed to continue there.

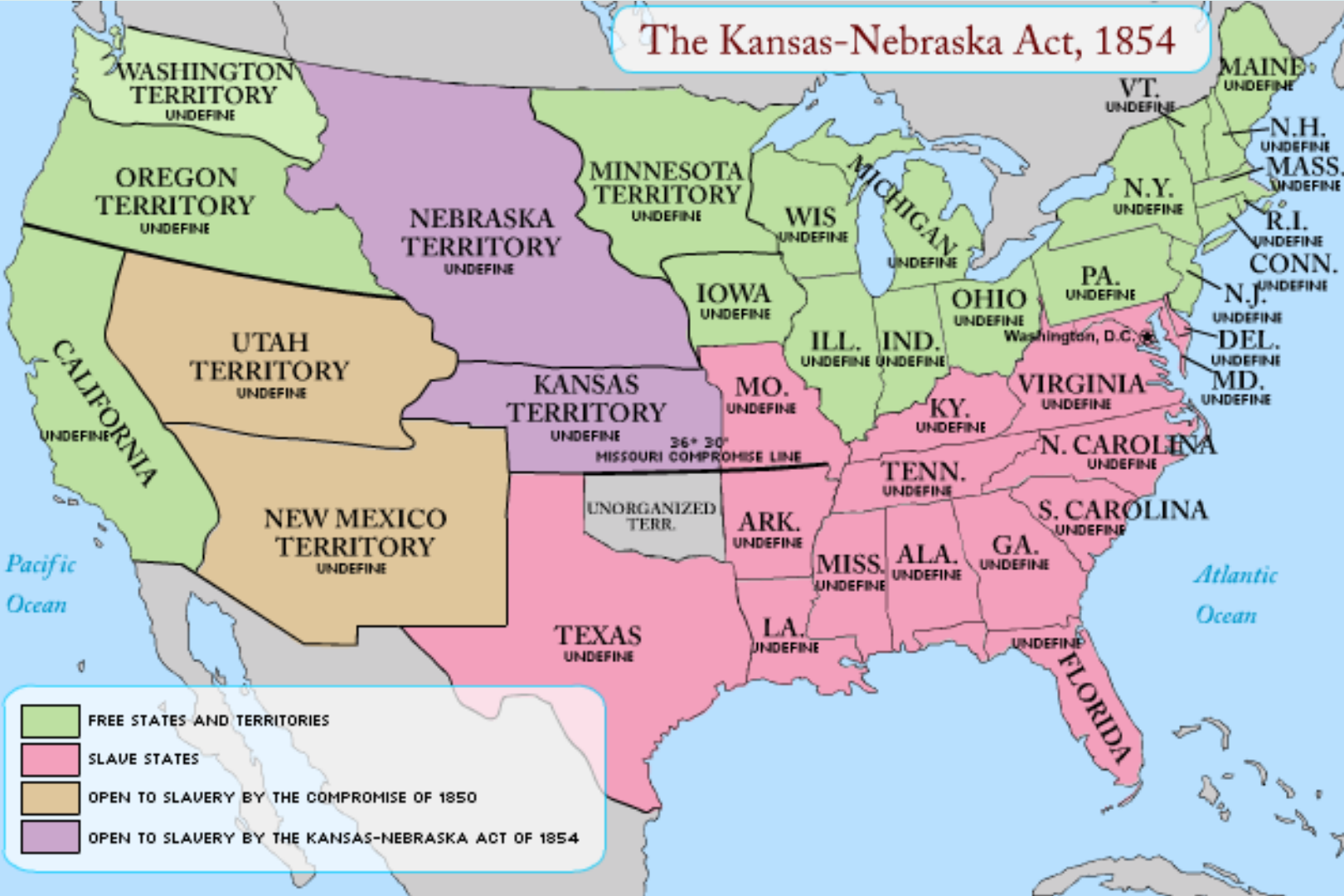
GSE Objective

SSUSH8e. Evaluate the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the failure of popular sovereignty, Scott v. Sandford, John Brown's Raid on Harper's Ferry, and the election of 1860 as events leading to the Civil War.

Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)

- Signed in 1854, this Act of Congress, introduced by Stephen Douglas, had the following effects:
 - repealed the Missouri Compromise (what was that?)
 - created two new territories: Kansas and Nebraska
 - allowed each territory to decide on the slavery issue by using “**popular sovereignty**”
 - led to formation of the Republican Party, which supported keeping slavery out of the territories
 - resulted in “**Bleeding Kansas**,” a term used by newspapers for the violent warfare there between pro- and anti-slavery settlers

The Kansas-Nebraska Act, 1854



Bleeding Kansas

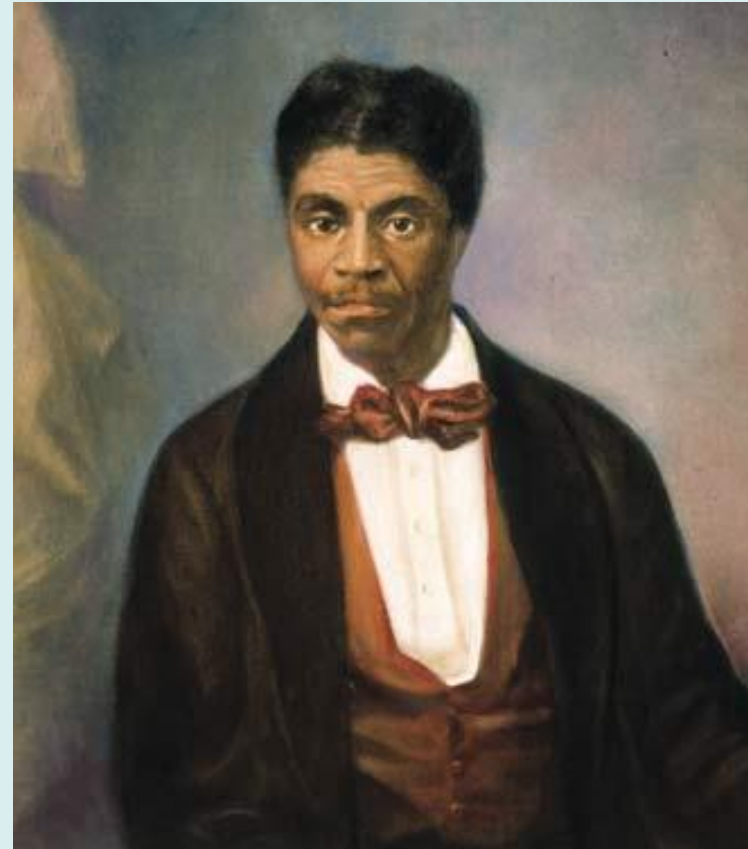
- Because Kansas would decide about slavery through popular sovereignty, both the North (antislavery) and the South (pro-slavery) sent thousands of people into Kansas to sway the vote.
- Tensions between the two groups led to violence and the destruction of property, including the sacking of Lawrence
- By the end of 1856, 200 people had been killed in the skirmishes.

How did the violence in Kansas demonstrate that popular sovereignty was a failure?



Dred Scott

- Dred Scott was a slave taken by his master, Dr. Emerson, from the slave state of Missouri into the free state of Illinois, then to the free territory of Wisconsin, then back to Missouri.
- With the help of abolitionist lawyers, Scott sued for freedom in 1847, claiming that because he had lived in a free state, he should be free.



Dred Scott V. Sandford

The case went to the Supreme Court, where, in 1857, the Court ruled against Scott as follows:

1. Slaves were property, not citizens, thus Scott had no standing (could not sue) in Federal Court.
2. The Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional because Congress has no power to prohibit slavery in the territories: slaves are property, and the Fifth Amendment prohibits Congress or a territorial legislature from depriving citizens (including slave owners) of property without due process of law.
3. While Scott was temporarily living in a free state (Illinois) he was subject to Missouri law.

Scott was eventually freed in May 1857; he died nine months later

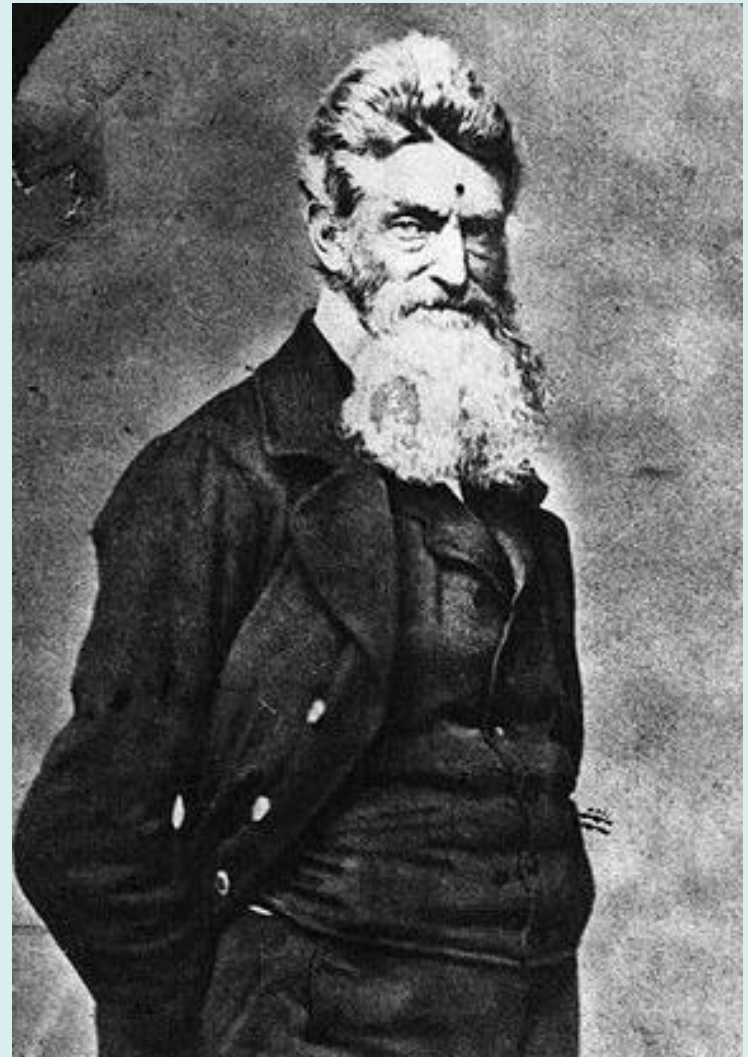


Technical Ruling of the Court

- Judgment reversed and suit dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.
- 1. Persons of African descent cannot be, nor were ever intended to be, citizens under the U.S. Constitution. Thus, the Plaintiff is without standing to file a suit.
- 2. The Property Clause is only applicable to lands possessed at the time of ratification (1787). As such, Congress cannot ban slavery in the territories. Thus, the Missouri Compromise is unconstitutional.
- 3. The Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment prohibits the federal government from freeing slaves brought into federal territories.

John Brown's Raids (1856-1859)

- **John Brown was a white abolitionist who advocated the use of violence against those supporting slavery.**
- **In 1856, he kidnapped and murdered five pro-slavery settlers at Pottawatomie Creek, Kansas. He was never captured, arrested, or tried for these murders.**
- **In 1859, Brown and his followers tried to incite a slave insurrection in Virginia by seizing a federal arsenal in Harpers Ferry, Virginia.**

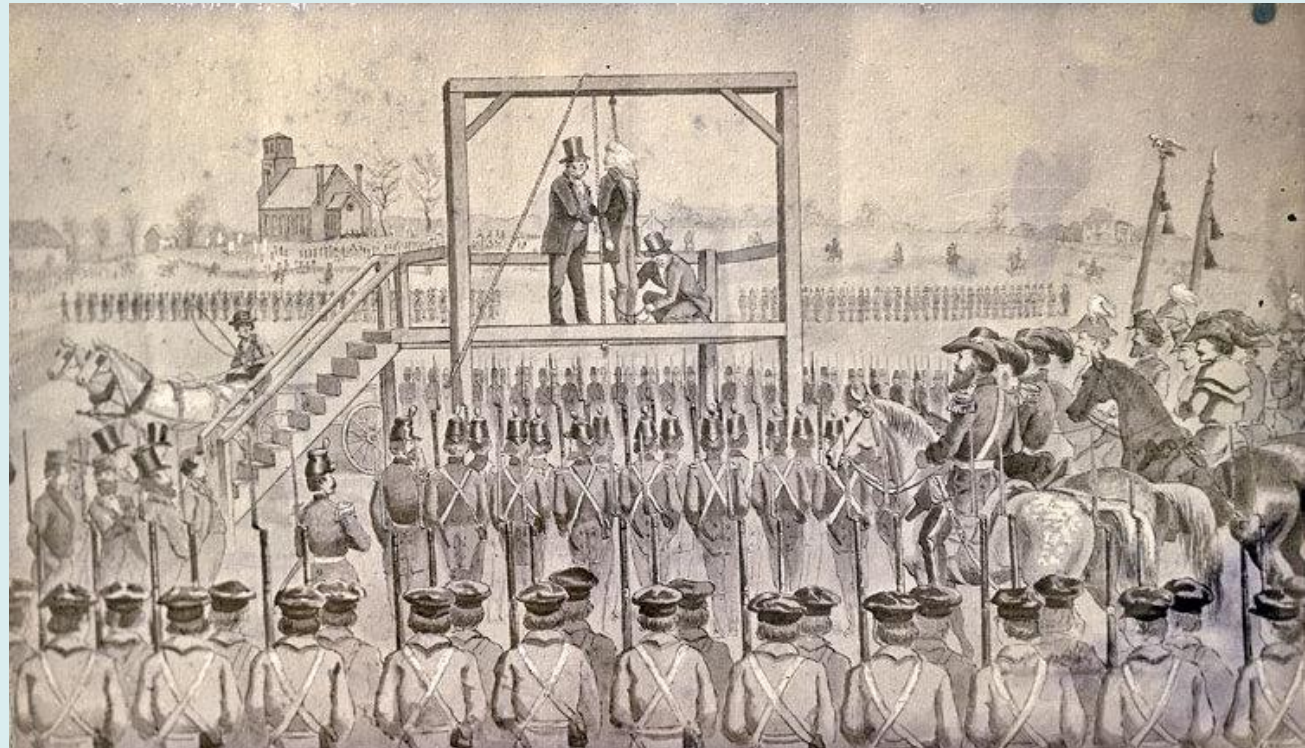




John Brown's Raids (1856-1859)

- The uprising was quickly put down by U.S. Marines commanded by Colonel Robert E. Lee, and, after a trial, Brown was executed.
- Brown was viewed by many in the North as a martyr for the anti-slavery movement.

How do you think
Brown was viewed
In the South-why?



The Civil War (1861-1865)

Events leading to the start of the Civil War:

- As we have seen, tensions steadily increased between the North and the South over slavery and other sectional issues.
- Campaigning in the 1860 Presidential election, Abraham Lincoln promised not to interfere with slavery where it already existed, but he vowed to prevent slavery from spreading into the territories.
- Reacting to Lincoln's election, South Carolina seceded from the Union in December 1860.
- By June 1861, ten more Southern states had seceded and formed the Confederate States of America.

Fort Sumter, Charleston, SC

- The first battle of the Civil War began on April 12, 1861 at Fort Sumter.
- Fort Sumter, a Union **fort in Charleston Harbor**, was surrounded and cut off from supplies after South Carolina seceded in December 1860.
- The Union refused to surrender the fort, and in April 1861 Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, ordered Southern troops to bombard the fort.
- The battle began on April 12 and ended when union forces surrendered 33 hours later.



A Comparison of Selected Resources, North and South, ca. 1861

	North	South
Population:	22 million	9 million (6 M. free/3 M. slaves)
Share of all factories in Nation:	80%	20%
Railroad lines*	21,005 mi.	9,512 mi.

* <http://facweb.furman.edu/~benson/docs/rr5060.htm>